(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There is no proposal under consideration at present to convert this road into National Highway.

Decision to Speed-up Disinvestment of PSUs

5. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether, as indicated at the meeting of the Council on Trade and Industry held in New Delhi on September 7, 2001, Government have decided to hasten privatisation of specified PSU;

(b) if so, the details of these PSUs; and

(c) the steps since taken for privatisation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) In the meeting of the PM's Council of Trade and Industry held on 7th September, 2001, some members stressed the need for faster implementation of disinvestment in Public Sector Undertakings.

Government has identified 13 public sector enterprises, with tight time frame, to be disinvested this year. These are: Bharat Heavy Plates & Vessels Ltd. (BHPV), CMC Ltd., IBP Co. Ltd., Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd. (IPCL), India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC), Instrumentation Control Valves Ltd. (ICVL), Jessop & Co. Ltd., Maruti Udyog Ltd., NEPA Ltd., HTL Ltd., Hindustan Zinc Ltd., Hotel Corporation of India Ltd. and Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (VSNL). Out of them, disinvestment transaction has already been completed in respect of HTL Limited and CMC Limited. Action has also been finalised in respect of certain hotels under ITDC & Hotel Corporation of India.

News-item "Separate law for disinvestment"

6. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Separate Law" for disinvestment needed: expert, which appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated 10th September 2001;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto and whether Government share the perception of the experts with regard to the lackadaisical approach of Government to disinvestment process so far; and